

DISASTER PREPAREDNESS DISASTER RESPONSE FORCE IN SUPPORT OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION AIR NATIONAL GUARD

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In accordance with Air Force Policy Directive (AFPD) 32-40, Disaster Preparedness, Air Force Instruction (AFI) 32-4001, Disaster Preparedness Planning and Operations, Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 32-4005, Personnel Protection and Attack Actions, Air Force Handbook 32-4014, Volume 4, provides key information, procedures, and actions needed to prepare for, survive, and restore mission capability after, a nuclear, biological, chemical or conventional attack. The Air Force will establish a single integrated Disaster Preparedness (DP) Program. The Air Force and its Reserve/Guard element will support Department of Defense and Federal Emergency Management Agency emergency preparedness programs consistent with other United States Air Force operational requirements and State Military Department & Emergency Management Agency, when so directed.

All U.S. Air Force active and Air Reserve/Guard Component personnel receive basic Nuclear, Biological, Chemical, Conventional (NBCC) Warfare education given by the Disaster Preparedness Technicians. This training consists of several levels of NBCC awareness, task skills, and team operations. Air Force personnel assigned to specialized NBCC duties and teams receive specialized training by the Disaster Preparedness Technicians.

DP programs must provide for training, emergency planning, management, preparedness, mitigation, response, and assistance functions to support:

- Peacetime radiological response, assessment, and monitoring.
- DOE and military-sponsored shipments of classified nuclear components and transuranic radioactive waste materials.
- Hazardous materials (HAZMAT) emergency planning and response compliance.
- Natural disaster emergency assistance planning, mitigation and recovery planning, and response operations.
- Major accident response planning and operations.
- Shelter operations and management for peacetime natural disasters and wartime protection of personnel.
- Operations in nuclear, biological, chemical, or conventional (NBCC) attack environments.
- Camouflage, concealment, and deception planning, operations, and training.

The Disaster Preparedness Support Team (DPST)—is manned, trained and equipped to protect personnel from attack, major accidents, and natural disasters. This Response Force will respond to nuclear, biological and or chemical incidents worldwide, when tasked by the Air Force or by a National Command Authority, to assist local civilian and military agencies in order to assist the on-scene commander in providing initial/ post incident consequence management.

The DPST can provide expert advice to the on-scene commander via a communications network established by compliance with Air Force Regulations and Air Guard Essential Information Management System (AGEIMS) which has connectivity with most State EMAs, FEMA, FBI, NGB, and DOMS.

The DPST deploys to an incident locations by the most expeditious means possible, where they will coordinate initial relief efforts, provide security and area isolation at the affected site; detection, identification and decontamination; expert medical advice and assistance to local medical authorities; and service support assistance as required.

Though the force does not have a direct counter-terrorist role, its personnel are highly trained in dealing with the consequences of a nuclear, biological/chemical attacks.

Personnel

The Disaster Preparedness Flight is a complete team and contains about 6 personnel, with the potential of increasing the strength to about 250 personnel, which includes the support team.

The DPST is comprised of five elements: reconnaissance, decontamination, medical, security and service support. The Nuclear, Biological and Chemical (NBC) reconnaissance team is responsible for detecting the location of an incident site. The decontamination team decontaminates personnel and equipment exposed to any nuclear, biological or chemical agents.

Equipment

The DPST is currently using the Battle Dress Overgarment (BDO)/ GCE Ground Crew Ensemble Nuclear, Biological, Chemical Protective Overgarment (a.k.a. Mission Oriented Protective Posture (MOPP) suits and MCU2P Protective Masks. The Unit has the Chemical Agent Alarm (CAM), M8A1 Chemical Agent Alarm, M22 Automatic Chemical Agent Detector Alarm (currently on order), Charger CDV-750/750-5, IM 143PD Dosimeters, ADM 300, Multi Functional Radiac Meter (MFR), M8 Paper, Chemical Agent Detection, M9 Chemical Agent Detection Paper, M256A1 Chemical Agent Detection Kit, M258A1 Personal Decontamination Kit, M291 Skin Decontamination Kit, M295 Individual Equipment Decontamination Kit, M17 Decontamination Apparatus, NBC Contamination Marking Set, AN/PSN-11 Navigation Set Global Positioning System and Emergency Information Systems GEM/Infobook 8.0 Response Software.

When fully equipped, expected costs in terms of equipment will be \$.85 million dollars. Annual operating costs are projected at \$20,000, to include Precision Measurement Equipment Lab (PMEL) calibration, to be \$7,000.

Training

The Disaster Preparedness Team is a highly trained, self sufficient force prepared to respond on short notice to nuclear, biological, chemical incidents worldwide, to assist the on-scene commander in providing pre-trans-post incident consequence management. The unit also trains DOD personnel in how to deal with nuclear, biological, and chemical threats. The Disaster Preparedness Teams participate in FEMA and MARE Exercises annually. In addition, Disaster Preparedness Office, are trained as a Train-the-Trainer in Hazmat Levels 1; The Fire Department has members trained as Train-the-Trainers 2, 3, and 5 as well.

The Disaster Preparedness Team is trained to deal with all Known Chemical and biological agents and nuclear fallout.

Command and Control Team

The Command and Control Team is the Disaster Response Force's central nervous system. It consists of various sections including Support Group UTC for Survival Recovery Center (SRC) operations, consisting of 3 officers and 2 enlisted. Including a 4 enlisted Personnel Accountability Staff whom are fully trained and equipped. Also, a 9 member enlisted team of Prime Ribs who also are fully equipped and trained with a MKT to provide food on site and provide search and rescue, billeting and mortuary services. A Communications package of 6 enlisted personnel to provide basic telephone, computer support and radios. The Command and Control Team also consists of Contracting support package with 2 enlisted fully trained and equipped. Supply is also represented on this Team with 6 enlisted personnel to distribute, receive and issue supplies and replacement parts. Transportation Maintenance has a 33 people who provide vehicle operations, traffic management and shipping of cargo.

Reconnaissance Team

The Disaster Preparedness reconnaissance team is comprised of 5 Non-commissioned officers (NCO) with a possibility to increase membership to 10 with the Disaster Preparedness Support Team (DPST). Each NCO on the DP reconnaissance Team has the Air Force Specialty Code (AFSC) of 3E9X1---NBC Disaster Preparedness Journeyman---Craftsmen for which they attend a eleven-week school in Fort Leonardwood, Missouri. Additionally, all 3E9X1's must go on to 7 schools to be upgraded in their knowledge and responsibility in dealing with nuclear fallout and mitigating biological and chemical contaminated sites and are required to certify every 3 years in their primary NBC job knowledge at Silver Flag Exercise, Tyndall AFB, Florida.

The DP Team also trains in a variety of chemical and biological incident scenarios, in which they are evaluated on their ability to perform their role. The evaluations test not only their proficiency with equipment and procedures, but also their small unit leadership and reaction to any number of scenarios. The Medical Patient Decontamination Team made up of 23 people who are trained in Chemical Casualty management and detection and classification. This team is fully trained but will need to acquire additional equipment.

Decontamination Team

The Fire Department has a manning of 24 enlisted, who are fully trained in HAZMAT Train-the Trainer and Decon. This unit is fully equipped. The Wing also has up to 3 decon teams with 6 personnel per trained fully in gross area and equipment decon.

The Air National Guard has 5 Full Time Member Contamination Control Area (CCA) Team with possibility to increase to 34 members, that are trained annually to set up assets and assist members to don, doff Chemical Warfare Gear and decontaminate small equipment items.

3 (NCO)'s and a medical officer on the Medical Decontamination team, 7 NCO's on the Transportation (vehicle) Decontamination team, 12 NCO's on the Maintenance (AGE and Aircraft) Decontamination team, and 13 NCO's on the Civil Engineers Gross Area Decontamination team.

The Medical Squadron has a 4 medical personnel are qualified in Medical Management of Chemical Casualties, and trained annually at the course, Continuous Medical Readiness Training, given by the U.S. Air Force Medical Decontamination Team in Alpena, Michigan, Contingency Response Training Center (CRTC). The team is capable of detecting, classifying and identify all known chemical and biological agents. If the team is unable to identify an agent with their equipment, members are able to collect samples for available agencies that can identify the agent.

Medical Team

The Medical Squadron is tasked with 29 trained personnel, but are not homestation equipped to carry out this mission. The team is tasked with treating any chemical or biological casualties, including those suffering from nerve, blister or blood agents. The staff is capable of administering antibiotics and antidotes, as well as treating chemical burns and conventional injuries.

Members of the medical team will go into an affected area to provide on-scene life-saving medical attention. There, they will stabilize and evaluate casualties to a predetermined decontamination area. At that point, the team will evacuate the casualties to available local or worldwide medical facilities.

Security Team

The Security Forces Squadron (SFS) is authorized 72 personnel, 44 of which are UTC tasked with one officer and 43 enlisted and is at present strength of 67 personnel trained with personnel identified to bring the unit up to 100% shortly. Would need to add one UTC to current unit manning to mirror Marine Model. The team is self-supporting for 5 days without outside sustainment support and is trained in MOOTW. The team can be used in State Active Duty status in a civil disturbance mission without violating the Posse Cumitatus Act. Members tasked are trained in security patrols for the reconnaissance team, quelling civil unrest, detaining hostile forces, assisting with evacuation of casualties, securing a contaminated area, providing asset security to the site.

While all Security Forces officers and enlisted continuously received intense training in numerous areas, including Nuclear, Biological and Chemical (NBC) identification and defense, the Security Forces Squadron has also received heightened training in operating in a chemically and biologically contaminated environments.

Response Force Support Team

The Prime Beef follow team is 3 officers and 64 enlisted, ANG CE has expertise in 6 main areas of disaster management and response. Those areas are (1) Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical (NBC) operations, management and training; (2) Disaster communications, command & control, and information (C₃I) operations; (3) Emergency Engineering and expedient beddown operations; (4) Resource Protection; (5) EOD operations and management; (6) Firefighting and HAZMAT operations and management. ANG CE is responsible for NBC detection, monitoring, avoidance, decontamination protocol, operations, and training for all ANG personnel. ANG CE has specialized NBC teams embedded in each unit to include NBC Reconnaissance and detection teams, gross area, equipment, personal and spot decontamination teams. ANG CE has expertise in managing and operating a Contamination Control Area (CCA) which is a staging area for removing and controlling contamination by donning and doffing personal protective equipment when going from toxic hot zone to a toxic free area (TFA). ANG CE has expertise in emergency engineering in facility & utility damage assessment, heavy equipment operations, expedient facility and utility repair teams. ANG CE has expertise in planning, expedient beddown operations of temporary billeting, personal hygiene facilities, messing facilities, mass care facilities, and medical facilities. ANG CE has expertise in design and construction of resource protection structures, potable water production, power generation, area lighting, and other expedient requirements. ANG CE has 10 DOD trained Explosive Ordinance Disposal teams throughout the US trained in all aspects of WMD explosive or dispersal devices. ANG CE firefighters are trained with the capability to perform HAZMAT Operations and Incident Command System (ICS) level tasks. All of these specialized teams are integral to the wartime tasks of the US Air Force and are inspected and evaluated to show Ability To Survive and Operate (ATSO) in a NBC environment.